

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.
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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.
State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee
Publishing company, being duly sworn,
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complete copies of The Daily Morning
Evening and Sunday Bee, printed during
the month of October, 1898, was as fol-
lows:

1. 20,920	11. 25,038
2. 25,505	12. 25,005
3. 25,410	13. 26,580
4. 25,810	14. 25,273
5. 25,351	15. 25,345
6. 25,474	16. 25,345
7. 25,405	17. 25,815
8. 27,320	18. 25,076
9. 25,207	19. 25,425
10. 25,528	20. 25,257
11. 7,007	21. 25,406
12. 34,012	22. 25,534
13. 31,648	23. 27,736
14. 27,914	24. 25,900
15. 26,740	25. 26,055
16. 20,300	

Total.....815,008
Less unsold and returned papers.....17,823
Net total average.....797,185
Net daily average.....25,718

GEORGE B. TSCHUCK,
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my
presence this 31st day of October, 1898.
N. P. FEIL,
Notary Public.

Now for the best holiday trade ever
enjoyed by Omaha business men.

President McKinley's message will be
longer than usual. But he will also
have more to say than usual.

France now wants to float a large
loan. When it wants to sink it might
call on the services of Dewey, Schley
and Sampson.

Spain will take the whole time limit
to reply to Uncle Sam's last note. Most
people put off unpleasant duties till the
last possible moment.

There are just as large holes in the
Indiana atmosphere as in Nebraska.
Two Indiana men fired fifteen shots at
each other the other day and hit nothing
but the wide world.

It is reported the Cubans are anxious
to enlist in the United States army.
They have had considerable experience
in soldiering, but desire to acquire the
sensation caused by the sight of a pay-
master.

The war and the foot ball season are
both over and if the peace commission
will only conclude its labors people will
soon settle down and devote their at-
tention exclusively to the ordinary af-
fairs of life.

The usual story comes from many sec-
tions of the country that the snow has
caught much corn in the field likely to
remain there until spring. Many
farmers are assiduous followers of the
Spanish motto, "mañana."

Lincoln newspapers have lapsed into
their old habit of attempting to create
or stir up sentiment in the state hostile
to Omaha. Nothing less than a war
of sufficient momentum to distract them
from this favorite occupation.

It cost New York City \$50,000 to clear
its streets after one of the big snow
storms of last winter. The only way to
keep Omaha's streets free from snow is
by a more liberal use of money than is
at the disposal of the municipal govern-
ment.

How much longer is South Omaha to
be policed under a chief under indict-
ment for connivance with a fatal price
fight? Does not the good name of the
town demand the suspension of a police
officer who promotes crime when sworn
to suppress it?

Douglas county has not yet developed
a candidate for speaker among its
members-elect to the legislature. This
is due, however, simply to their over-
whelming modesty. Every member of the
Douglas delegation has the making of a
fine presiding officer for the house.

The sultan of Turkey should send a
message of condolence to the empress
dowager of China. Each is troubled
with people who insist upon instituting
reforms and overturning time-honored
customs which place the lives and
property of subjects at the mercy of the
divinely-ordained rulers.

The president is said to be in con-
siderable doubt as to the manner of
government best adapted to the new
possessions of the United States. This
is strange in view of the fact there are
men by the hundreds over the coun-
try sitting by office radiators and
whittling sticks around the stores in
corner grocery stores who can tell him
all about it.

It is amusing to read the translated
ravings of a Santiago paper which has
taken alarm over the proposed migra-
tion of Kansas negroes to Cuba. The
Santiago sheet demands, among other
things, that the people of Cuba boycott
the Yankee negroes, who are said to be
able to live on practically nothing and
should, therefore, be excluded from
Cuba as undesirable immigrants. In the
meantime the Yankee negroes of the
south are anxious to exclude the native
Cubans from this country on the same
grounds because they are able to live
on less than nothing—by begging from
other people or drawing government
pensions.

THE GOVERNMENT PROBLEM.

The problem of civil government for
the new dependencies is said to be
causing the president some perplexity
and it is not expected that he will lay
before congress a complete plan for
such government. Pending the negoti-
ation of a treaty of peace and its ratifi-
cation the only recommendations which
the president can properly make are
in regard to the form of civil govern-
ment to be provided for Porto Rico,
which has passed into the control of
the United States under the terms of
the protocol and will not be affected by
the result of the peace negotiations.
Porto Rico is now American territory
and will remain so. The Philippines
are not yet in possession of the United
States. Their disposition is still under
consideration and until that matter is
settled neither the president nor con-
gress will be called upon to consider
the question of government for the
islands and there will be ample time
for deliberation. Assuming that a
treaty of peace will be soon concluded
in conformity with American demands,
to become effective it must be ratified
by the United States senate. There is
now some doubt whether the required
two-thirds vote can be obtained and
the growing volume of anti-expansion
sentiment promises to exert a tremen-
dous influence against the acquies-
cence of the Philippines. But if a treaty
is signed and ratified we may and prob-
ably will still have to make good our
possession by subjugating the Filipinos
who do not want our government, but
independence. At all events there will
be plenty of time in which to consider
the question of civil government for
the Philippines. As to Cuba, the
United States has no duty there except
to establish peace and order and to
enable the people of the island to form
a civil government. It is said that the
president may propose some plan for
taking the opinion of the inhabitants
regarding the form of government they
desire. This would be a proceeding of
questionable propriety and not at all
likely to be adopted by Mr. McKinley.
Having pacified Cuba it must be left to
the control and government of its
people, as we are pledged to do. There
is no other honorable course for this
country.

It is understood to be the view of the
president that military government
should be continued for some time to
come, or at least until the people of
the new dependencies have become fa-
miliar with American control and
methods of administration. While gov-
ernment under military authority,
where the establishment of civil gov-
ernment is practicable, is repugnant to
American principles and ideas, it may
be expedient in the new dependencies,
there can be no doubt that it will be im-
peratively necessary to maintain such gov-
ernment for an indefinite time in the Philippines,
or at least in those islands which are
chiefly inhabited by savages and semi-
savages. One strong reason urged for
preferring government by army officers
to any other form at present is the
freedom from scandal and the high
code of honor likely to govern such an
administration. Of course this subject
will receive more or less attention in
congress and it is to be expected that
numerous plans will be formulated for
the government of the new possessions,
but except as to Hawaii there will
probably not be any legislation at the
coming session.

PRESSING REVENUE PROBLEMS.

A member of the incoming legislature
requests The Bee to make suggestions
concerning the revision of our revenue
laws. Among the questions propounded
are the following:
Can you suggest a remedy for the un-
dermining of the law which re-
quires all property to be assessed at its
fair cash value?

How would you secure uniformity in
assessments, first as between individ-
uals, second as between different pre-
dicts or townships in a county, third
as between the different counties in the
state?

Would you suggest a different method
from that now in vogue for assessing
the property of railroad corporations?

What should be the rule for ascertain-
ing the value of a franchise of a corpo-
ration as provided by the state constitu-
tion?

In order to devise an effective remedy
for the most flagrant abuse of the re-
venue laws by undervaluation we must
ascertain the cause. Experience has
shown that real estate bears the bulk
of the burden of taxation because it
cannot be covered up or put out of reach
of the assessor. Under the mistaken
notion that the difference in the con-
ditions of real and personal property is
equalized by reducing the assessed value
of real estate below the market value,
the foundation is laid for systematic
frauds in assessment and omission of
taxable property from the tax list.
When real estate is assessed at from
one-fourth to one-tenth of its market
price the owners of money in bank and
the owners of mortgages and securities
that have known cash value will make
false returns or no returns because the
tax rate almost equals the amount of
interest.

If all real and personal property were
appraised at its cash value as near as
can be ascertained and taxed only upon
one-third, one-fourth or one-fifth of
the amount, a material improvement would
soon be made. In other words, when-
ever the owners of money and securi-
ties are assured that they will be taxed
on only one-fourth of the actual cash
value of their assets, they will have less
temptation to conceal them or make false
returns. This plan of appraising all
taxable property at cash value and as-
sessing it uniformly at a ratio of one-
third or one-fourth was recommended
years ago by Governor Thayer, and has
been recommended by the Iowa revenue
commission in its recent report. There
is no doubt, however, that the prosecu-
tion of corrupt assessors and persons
who make fraudulent returns of taxable
property would go farther than any
revenue reform legislation.
To secure uniformity in assessments
between individuals, precincts, town-
ships and counties, we must make radi-

cal changes in the membership, powers
and duties of boards of equalization.
The county boards should be made up
of precinct and township officers with
authority to determine the average value
of lands, cattle and so forth.

The assessment of railroad property
presents the most difficult problem. If
the present mode of assessment could be
the right of way only exclusive of depot
grounds, warehouses, elevators and
other buildings and the ground occupied
by such structures, there would be no
valid objection to its assessment by a
state board and apportionment by
mileage among the counties traversed.
But the dumping in of terminal facilities
of great value and all rolling stock into
the mileage pot, and practically exempt-
ing these properties from local taxation
works great injustice to other tax-
payers.

To secure the most equitable distribu-
tion of state taxes, the present State
Board of Equalization should be abol-
ished and a board created consisting of
a representative county commissioner
from each senatorial district chosen by
the commissioners of all the counties
within the district. Such a body would
be more familiar with the relative valua-
tions of real and personal property than
a board made up of five state officers
who are subject to constant pressure
from the big corporations.

The value of franchises must be de-
termined by the earning capacity of the
franchised corporation based on honest
capitalization. The aim in all cases
should be to impose no unjust burden
upon any class, but to compel all to
bear their due proportion. If this is
done, the rate of taxation will be low-
ered and Nebraska property that is now
overtaxed correspondingly increased in
value.

THE GROWING PENSION ACCOUNT.

The report of the secretary of the in-
terior states that 635,000 pension claims
of all classes are pending, nearly 2,000
of these being on account of deaths and
disabilities in the war with Spain.
These claims are mostly for wounds
and deaths from wounds and are made
under the general law for permanent
disabilities contracted in the service.
A very large increase in the applications
for pensions by soldiers in the Spanish
war is to be expected as physical disa-
bilities due to military service are de-
veloped among those mustered out and
additions to the pension account from
this source will of course continue to
be made so long as it is necessary to
retain a large volunteer force in service.
Thousands of the soldiers in Cuba, Porto
Rico and the Philippines will die or be
disabled from diseases contracted in
camp. It is said to be the opinion of the
pension office experts that not less than
20,000 pension claims will be filed for
disabilities incurred by federal soldiers
while performing military duty in
southern camps and probably the num-
ber will be much larger.

The Philadelphia Record says that
there can be little doubt that the
estimate of 22,000 additional pen-
sioners as one result of the recent
war represents the minimum in-
crease of the pension roll on this
account. The aggregate of pension
claims due to the civil war is more than
one-half of the total force enlisted in
that struggle. If this proportion should
hold good with regard to the pension
list of the recent war more than 100,000
names would be added to the rolls of
the pension office on this account. At
all events a very considerable increase
in the annual pension payments is as-
sured, a fact which is to be taken into
consideration in connection with the
cost of the war with Spain. In view of
this addition to the pension account,
now exceeding \$140,000,000 a year, con-
gress should be exceedingly careful
about passing private pension bills,
scores of which are introduced at every
session.

NOT A PROMISING MARKET.

The bulletin of the Massachusetts
bureau of statistics of labor for Octo-
ber gives a summary of the productive
conditions of the Philippines, with their
principal imports and exports, the fig-
ures having been collected from recent
consular reports. It appears that the
islands are a good market for inex-
pensive jewelry. Good profits are also
found in cotton, linen and silk goods if
adapted to the local taste. What this
taste demands is indicated in the men-
tion of some of the marketable textiles.
Colored prints, with red ground and
fancy crimps, ginghams in large pat-
terns, with red ground, same with yel-
low and blue squares and same with in-
digo ground, or in green. The Philip-
pine people generally do not wear ex-
pensive clothing and wearing apparel is
not a very large item in their expendi-
tures. If the United States should have
all of this trade it would not make out
manufacturers rich, but with the open
door policy they will be able to get only
a part of it and perhaps a very small
part.

The expansionist will say, however,
that under American civilization and
elevating influence the Filipinos will soon
greatly improve their methods of living.
Possibly, but it may be doubted whether
the Philippines will ever offer a
profitable market for American manu-
facturers if they have to compete there
on equal terms with the manufacturers
of other countries which have already
established trade with the islands.

The order of the president modifying
the civil service regulations is being
anxiously awaited by a large number
who anticipate that through it many
places will be made available for those
who have heretofore sought office in
vain. There has been no intimation
that the order is to be as sweeping as
this class desires. That it will include
employees for whom the chiefs of de-
partments are directly responsible, par-
ticularly in a monetary way, is a cer-
tainty. It has been recognized as an
injustice to hold an official responsible
on his bond for the acts of a man over
whose appointment or removal he had
no control. Another class of employees
is that which from the nature of their
duties are brought into immediate per-
sonal and confidential relations with
their chiefs. These two classes do not
embrace any considerable number of

people. Even when the positions are
taken out from the protection of the
civil service rules there is no indica-
tion of wholesale removals to follow
and the chances are that expectant ap-
plicants are likely to accumulate a large
stock of disappointment.

Congressman Bailey of Texas ex-
presses the utmost confidence in his
ability to retain the leadership of the
minority in the next congress. One of
the most plausible reasons for his con-
fidence is the fact that several of the
strongest leaders of the party in the
present house will not be members of
the next, among them McMillin of Ten-
nessee, Dockery of Missouri and Sayers
of his own state, two of whom have
been elected governors of their re-
spective states, and the third, Dockery,
retiring voluntarily for the purpose of
making the race for governor at the
next election. Mr. Bailey attributes the
opposition to him to his fight on the
policy of imperialism, but says he al-
ready has enough votes pledged to in-
sure his success. Those who wish to
derive entertainment from the proceed-
ings of congress will certainly hope Mr.
Bailey's estimate of his strength will
prove correct.

Should the coming session of the legis-
lature repeal the law creating the
State Board of Transportation Gov-
ernor Poynter would be placed in
a somewhat delicate position. While a
member of the legislature his vote was
recorded against the law, but it would
be a serious matter to sign a bill which
separates several poppets from the
public pay roll just when offices are
none too plentiful.

No Occasion for Hilarity.

Indianapolis News.
The fusion plurality in Nebraska was only
2,721. This is not enough for Mr. Bryan
to break his military lockjaw over.

Still True to Bryan.

Baltimore American.
Senator Allen says he is still true to
Bryan. Poor Bryan! What if Allen should
insist upon reading some of his speeches
to him?

Meaning of the "Open Door."

Chicago Inter Ocean.
The American peace commissioners pro-
pose simply to turn the trade and commerce
of the Philippines, as an American pos-
session, over to Great Britain. That is what
the open-door policy means.

Too Busy to Write.

Chicago Post.
Dewey appears to be the only one of our
war heroes who is more interested in his
job than in writing for the magazines, and that
makes him so much the more of a hero with
most of us. The man who can be "too busy"
to take \$5,000 for a short article commands
our admiration quite as much for that as
for the deeds that brought forth the offer.
There are so few such.

Speculating on Futures.

Chicago Tribune.
Nebraska is not destined to the presiden-
tial candidate under the democratic party in
1900. One attempt on the part of that state
to play Virginia's role of "Mother of Presi-
dents" has been enough. The policy of re-
troactive robbery by tampering with the
national money has met its death blow,
and the democratic party realizes it must get
a better issue and a better candidate than Ne-
braska has ever produced.

Dewey's Marvelous Celerity.

Globe-Democrat.
Dewey's orders at the beginning of the
war were brief and pointed: "Proceed at
once to the Philippine islands. Commerce
operations at once, particularly against
Spanish fleet. You must capture vessels
or destroy. Use utmost endeavors." This
dispatch was dated April 26. On May 1
they had been fully carried out. The
celerity of Dewey beats that of Napoleon.

Fortune Hunting in Cuba.

Baltimore American.
Advice and warning are vain, according
to report, in keeping away the crowd of ad-
venturers who are now flocking to Havana
as to a land of promise. Fortune-hunting is
such an unprofitable pursuit that it should
have lost its fascinations by this time. If
experience were able to show the true nature
of the golden hopes that center on the
islands with their possibilities as El Dorado.
But the desire for speedy gain is sufficient,
apparently, to override not only experience,
but also sense, comfort, the certainty of mis-
fortune, and the uncertainty of fortunate
result.

Education and Wages.

Philadelphia Ledger.
It is only a few months since the New
England mill owners were contending with
the cost of labor because of the competi-
tion of the south, where not only were
the mills close to the cotton fields, thus
avoiding or minimizing transportation
charges, but southern labor could be pro-
cured at wages that northern labor would
not accept. Many were the essays written
to show that the great staple industry of
New England was leaving that section for-
ever. Now comes an important strike in
the Georgia mills over a proposed reduc-
tion from the low wages already paid.
A street car strike is being waged by
educated up to a point where they will soon
permit the northern mills to resume opera-
tions.

Packing in Transit.

Distant Admiration for Alleged Re-
form in Omaha.
Chicago Journal.
The people of Omaha are finding a prac-
tical solution for the crowded-car outrage
—they have formed a society called the
Anti-Crowding Car Association, and when
members of the society find themselves in
sufficient force on a car that is threatened
with an overload, they order the conductor
to stop taking on passengers or go over
the dashboard. An Omahaite is willing to
stand and to cling to a strap, but he objects
vigorously to a too close compression with
his kind.

Probably this is unconstitutional, or un-
something-or-other. It seems like confis-
cation of property by mobs. But we are
almost willing to accept that it will do the
work. A street car company, being en-
dowed with an exacting appetite for every
nickel along its right of way, will use just
as many cars as it finds necessary to scoop
them up, and it will not stop to think of
it. It will pack a patient, public like sardines.
It will squeeze and crowd and jam and
bruise its passengers, and subject them to
all the discomforts of constricted circula-
tion and bad air just as long as they will
stand it, and when any one suggests a city
ordinance to compel it to render the public
a respectable service, it raises a howl to the
effect that it is being sandbagged and ap-
peals to the legislature to save it from its
own aldermen. So the municipal govern-
ment and the city ordinance seem to be the
way hit on in Omaha.

But we do not expect to see any such
methods adopted in Chicago. It would not
do to infuriate our car companies as the
Omahaites do theirs, or they might take off
half the cars and raise fares to 8 cents.
The submissive Chicagoan will continue to
thank heaven when he unexpectedly falls
heir to a strap.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

Georgia is wrestling with a deficit of
\$1,000,000 in the state treasury and the tax
rate is the second highest in the south. The
trouble is the state is long on government
and short on revenue.

Mayor Edward Hoes of Jersey City ex-
pects to be a candidate for re-election next
spring on a platform favoring Sunday
theaters. He is assured of the active sup-
port of the Order of Hoo-Hoo.

Among the items in the campaign ex-
pense bill of Hon. P. S. White, New York
state senator, is \$400 for renewing old ac-
quaintances and \$20 in making new ones.
At that price his campaign was not a very
spirited one.

According to their sworn statements,
Colonel Roosevelt's election expenses were
\$2,000, while Judge Van Wyck's were a
little more than \$400, but the latter gave
up a \$10,000 position to run for the office
he failed to get.

It is said there is more chemical beer
made and sold in New York state than in
the rest of the United States. This un-
contradicted assertion gives strength to the
movement for a state law regulating the
manufacture of beer.

Rev. Stanley L. Krebs of Reading, Pa.,
was a prohibition candidate for the legis-
lature at the recent election. He had written
pledges from 4,500 men that they would
have him for their legislator. He was elected
but he received but 1,352 votes.

Dr. Swallow, the Pennsylvania prohibi-
tionist who ran for governor, is not appar-
ently discouraged by his defeat. A friend
asked him if he was now out of politics and
the doctor replied: "No American citizen
has any right to go out of politics."

The prominent New Yorker, Elihu Root
and Joseph Choate are talked of for the
vacant ambassadorship to England. Root
is said to be supported by Senator Platt and
Choate by Senator Hanna. The contest will
determine the strength of two senatorial
pulis.

James Gray, the newly elected mayor of
Memphis, started life as a newsboy,
earned money sufficient to keep him while
going to the common schools, graduated from
the State university and became reporter
on and then managing editor of the Min-
neapolis Times.

Farmer Sibley of Pennsylvania, recently
elected to congress, is not an enthusiastic
free coinage of silver as he was two years
ago. "The silver question," he says, "has
been dead since 1896, and I have no time
to busy myself with dead issues." Farmer
Sibley dislikes whistling in a graveyard.

U. S. Grant, son of the dead general, is a
Republican candidate for United States
senator from California. His candidacy is
opposed by some of the Republicans of that
state on the ground that, though a Rep-
ublican now, he was a populist until quite
recently, and took a more or less active part
in politics.

J. P. Whittaker ran for office in Greene
county, Missouri, at the recent election. He
was defeated, but has the consolation of
knowing that his campaign did not cost him
much. The statement of his election ex-
penses, which he filed, shows the following
disbursements: "Blank paper, 10 cents;
Bureau of census, 10 cents; postage, 10 cents;
money, 5 cents; certificate of nomination, 20
cents; cigars, 25 cents; chewing gum, 20
cents. Total, \$1.15."

Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, whose retire-
ment from the presidency of Brown uni-
versity was the final outcome of his political
career, is now in Chicago, having met some
trouble of a political kind in Chicago, where
he is superintendent of public schools. It is
not silver this time, however, but "pull."
He wants teachers to receive and hold their
places, through appointment by him, for
three years, and he wants the board of edu-
cation to want it the other way. It is
now said Dr. Andrews may resign.

Colonel Roosevelt writes many letters,
but the epistles of few men are shorter.
When president of the New York police
board he personally acknowledged the
hundreds of letters requiring an answer.
Of these replies this is a sample: "My
Dear Sir: I thank you for sending me a
copy of that letter. Indeed, it does count.
Theodore Roosevelt." Nor has his style
changed. The other day, in replying to a
note of congratulation, he wrote: "My Dear
Sir: I sincerely thank you and appreciate
your letter. Theodore Roosevelt."

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Li Hung Chang is singularly slow to ac-
cept the empress' diplomatic hint that
there is enough water in the Yellow river
to drown a statesman.

The will of D. A. Wells, the writer of
economics, gives a fund to Harvard and
another to Williams college, from which
annual prizes of \$500 is to be given for the
best essay on a selected economic subject
written by a member of the senior class.

General Ferdinand P. Earle, owner of
the famous Jewel mansion on Washington
heights, New York, has decided to sell
the place and move the house. This is
where Washington stopped and where
Hamilton and Burr met before their duel.

Rudyard Kipling is said to have refused
twice within one year an offer from a
newspaper of \$1,000 for 1,000 words.
The regular price received by him for long
stories is now about \$150 per 1,000 words,
while his short stories are paid for at the
rate of from \$2,000 to \$5,000 each.

The youngest chaplain in the navy is said
to be Frederick C. Brown, 25 years old, now
in the Iowa, which is on its way to Manila.
He will be the only chaplain in the fleet,
since there is none on the Oregon. He was
appointed to the service last April, being at
that time pastor of the Unitarian church of
Middleboro, Mass.

Prince Herbert Bismarck has just issued
orders that strangers shall no longer be ad-
mitted to Friedrichsruhe or to Sachsenwald,
which have heretofore so much used as
picnic grounds by the people of Hamburg.
The prince says the pilgrimages have be-
come so numerous since his father's death
that the game in the forest is becoming
scarce.

At the recent Lotus club dinner in New
York, in honor of Lord Herschell, Seth Low,
speaking of the American and English fash-
ions on either side of the Roman pump, said
he trusted the guest of the evening would
not think this typified any coldness be-
tween the two nations. Lord Herschell re-
plied: "On the contrary, they are united by
a common spirit."

President McKinley has been invited to
take part in the Masonic ceremonies at
Mount Vernon December 14, to mark the
centennial of the death of George Washing-
ton. The exercises will consist, as nearly
as possible, of a duplication or reproduction
of the funeral ceremonies of December
18, 1799. The lodge in which Washington
was made a Mason and the Washington-
Alexandria lodge, of which he was the first
master, will take prominent parts in the
ceremonies. Masons from all parts of the
world are expected to be present.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

Thoughtful Frenchmen thoroughly ap-
preciate the enormous value, from a strategical
point of view, of the railroad which Lord
Kitchener has built along the Nile, and
which enables England at will to pour re-
inforcements in the direction of Abyssinia.
M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu argues, in the Paris
Debat, that the humiliation that has over-
taken France in the Fashoda affair is not en-
tirely owing to her mistake in not con-
structing the transsahara railway. If this
line had been in existence, he says, it would
have been easy, just as soon as England
began to threaten to menace her with an
invasion of Sokoto and all the valuable
Niger territory with troops from Algeria,
to whom it would have been impossible
for her to offer any effective opposition.
He then proceeds to urge the immediate
construction of a transsahara line, saying:
"If we happen again to have a difference
of interest or opinion with her on any point
of the globe, whether in America, Siam or
China, and she begins to bluster, we shall
be forced to yield. With the transsahara
railway we could resist, because we should
have hostages—namely, Sokoto and all the
central Sudan, which would be ours within
a few days after our rupture with England."

Of the geographical, climatic and financial
obstacles he apparently makes no count.

The complete text of the treaty by which
China leased to Great Britain Wei-Hai-Wei
has just been published in London. After
stating that Great Britain shall remain in
possession of that portion of the Shang-
tung province as long as "Port Arthur shall
remain in the occupation of Russia," and
defining the boundaries of the leased ter-
ritory, which have already been made
known, the document states: "Great Brit-
ain shall have in addition the right to erect
fortifications, station troops or take any
other measures necessary for defense."

Within the zone Chinese administration
shall not be interfered with, but no troops
other than Chinese or British shall be al-
lowed therein. It is also agreed that within
the walled city of Wei-Hai-Wei Chinese offi-
cials shall continue to exercise jurisdiction,
except so far as may be inconsistent with
naval and military requirements for the
defense of the territory. It is further
agreed that Chinese vessels of war, whether
neutral or otherwise, shall retain the right
to use the waters